Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) A method for operating one or more electrolysis cells for production of aluminium, the cell comprising inert or substantially inert anodes, where an oxygen containing gas evolved by the electrolysis process in the cell is gathered and removed therefrom,

wherein

the oxygen containing gas is introduced into a combustion chamber where it is reacted with a carbon containing gas in a combustion process.

- (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 1,
 wherein
 at least one part of the <u>a</u> reaction process stream from the combustion chamber is used in
 an energy conversion process.
- (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 2,
 wherein
 the energy conversion process comprising expansion of the reaction process stream in a
 gas-turbine for conversion of energy to mechanical energy.
- 4. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein the gas-turbine is arranged to drive a generator for the production of electricity, preferably for use in the electrolysis cell.
- 5. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein at least one part of the reaction process stream containing CO₂ is used as sweep gas in the electrolysis cell.

6. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein at least one part of the reaction process stream is directed into a permeate side of a mixed conducting membrane system to pick up oxygen from an air stream through a retentate side of the membrane system, where said oxygen enriched stream is directed back to the combustion chamber.

7. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein at least one part of a reaction process stream from a second combustion chamber is directed into a permeate side of a mixed conducting membrane system to pick up oxygen from an air stream through a retentate side of the membrane system, where said oxygen enriched stream is directed back to said combustion chamber, and where an other part of the reaction process stream is directed to said first combustion chamber.

- 8. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said carbon containing gas is derived from a fuel cell.
- (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein
 substantially all parts of CO₂ evolved is are recovered and deposited stored.
- 10. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein formation of NO_x is substantially avoided.

11. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein thermal energy in streams derived from the combustion chamber is recovered by vaporisation of water, whereby generated steam is utilised to generate electric power in one or more steam turbines.

12. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the oxygen containing gas is cleaned by removal of dust, electrolyte particles and fluoride vapours before it is applied in the combustion chamber.

- 13. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 5, wherein said at least one part of the reaction process stream containing CO₂ is dried before it is used as the sweep gas.
- 14. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein at least one part of the reaction process stream containing CO₂ is used as sweep gas in the electrolysis cell.
- 15. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 4, wherein at least one part of the reaction process stream containing CO₂ is used as sweep gas in the electrolysis cell.
- 16. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein substantially all parts of CO₂ evolved is are recovered and deposited stored.

- 17. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein substantially all parts of CO₂ evolved is are recovered and deposited stored.
- 18. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 4, wherein substantially all parts of CO₂ evolved is are recovered and deposited stored.
- 19. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein formation of NO_x is substantially avoided.
- 20. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein formation of NO_x is substantially avoided.
- 21. (New) A method in accordance with claim 4, wherein the electricity is for use in the electrolysis cell.